

**San Francisco Estuary Project
Implementation Committee Meeting**

February 3, 2006

Elihu M. Harris State Building
Oakland, California

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Introductions/Approval of November 4, 2005 Meeting Summary

Larry Kolb, Chair of the Implementation Committee, began the meeting shortly after 10 o'clock with a round table of introductions. The Meeting Summary for November 4, 2005 was approved.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. A. Update/Revisions to CCMP

At the November 4th meeting, the IC approved the recommendation from the August 2005 CCMP Workshop for the Estuary Project to proceed with a CCMP update. A Planning Group was organized and met to establish guidelines for the update which were included as Attachment B in the meeting package. The basic guideline is to review the CCMP and determine what goals, objectives and actions are missing. The 9 CCMP program areas were combined into 5 major work groups with facilitators. The work groups will meet during the next 18 months and return to the IC with their recommendations for acceptance. The Update will be a short Addendum to be attached to the existing CCMP.

It was noted the topic of Levees and the Delta were not explicitly addressed in the 5 work groups. After a brief discussion it was recommended that this topic be included as part of the Watershed work group which also includes Land Use and would cover urbanization behind delta levees and the future of the delta islands. It was pointed out that all Work Groups should get together to synergize their recommendations; although they should bring them to the IC when completed.

Another issue discussed by the Planning Group was research and monitoring /public education and outreach which are addressed as separate program areas in the CCMP. It was decided all Work Groups should address these topics in their group.

There was a lengthy discussion of linking updated objectives and actions to Performance Measures and Indicators. (See Attachment #1). It was stressed that quantifying or measuring performance against specific targets is critical for tracking results. Groups must examine how to quantify the target outcome so that actions can be related to the desired outcome. The Report Card can be structured to track results against the desired targets.

Although Invasive Species is one of SFEP's co-priorities from 2003, it was pointed out it does not exist as a separate Work Group. It should be included in both the Aquatic Resources group and in the Wetlands group. Also it was noted that work groups should be aware of and integrate findings of other efforts such as the Subtidal Goals project and the Upland Goals project and the IRWMP.

ACTION: Barbara Salzman moved and Arthur Feinstein seconded the motion that SFEP proceed with the CCMP update and guideline package. The IC voted and approved the motion. SFEP staff will email and send out regular mail invitations to the IC Interested Party mailing list and the CCMP workshop mailing list, approximately 500 contacts.

3. B. CCMP Long Term Finance Plan

An RFP was sent out to a selected group of financial planners to conduct a Finance Planning workshop in the Spring. Only one emailed a response saying the \$5,000 EPA provided funding was not sufficient. Other options will be considered and presented at the May IC meeting.

Beth Huning announced the Joint Venture has endorsed the Federal/Federal partnership for restoration program and National Audubon is taking the lead on legislation.

4. Draft 2006-07 SFEP Work Plan and Budget

Marcia Brockbank presented the work plan and budget. She emphasized that only the federal funding of \$500,000 is discretionary for program use (Attachment C) and she has been told funding may be reduced by as much as \$25,000 in the new budget. There was discussion on which items could be cut if this funding reduction is implemented. Suggestions included reducing printing costs of the Estuary newsletter by making it quarterly instead of 6 times per year; making it electronic or a combination of limited hard copy and the rest electronic; reducing funding for the Subtidal Goals project; reducing the small grants program. A recommendation was made for an across the board 5% reduction in programs. It was decided these efforts are premature since the actual federal cut is still unknown for now. Written comments on the proposed Work Plan are due by February 28 and it will be revised and sent for Executive Council review. Final approval will be at the May meeting.

5. CCMP Implementation-Research and Monitoring

At the November meeting, the I-C endorsed the concept of the indicators process as presented by Rainer Hoenicke of SFEI using the indicators developed by The Bay Institute for their Report Card. He requested formal approval of a resolution adopting these indicators (Attachment D). One correction to the resolution was requested; in the last sentence, "The continued development of these indicators will be coordinated with state efforts..." should be changed to "...will be coordinated with national, state, and local efforts..." Rainer stated indicator proceedings will be reported on a web page on the SFEI website as well as the TBI website and the SFEP website will have a link to both sites for indicators. The next step for SFEP is to produce an annual report on the

indicators. As the last TBI report card came out in Sept. 2005, a progress report will be due by Sept. 2006. TBI only issues the report card every two years, but some data is updated annually. Rainer will talk to the Indicators Consortium to inquire what is feasible for the SFEP report due in Sept. 2006.

ACTION: Arthur Feinstein moved the resolution be adopted; Steve McAdam seconded. The motion was approved.

6. SFEP Issues/Activities

- A. Revisiting the Logo: Comments on the previously selected Logo were shared and two new proposed Logo alternatives presented.
ACTION: The I-C selected one alternative with slight modifications.
- B. CCMP Implementation Review: SFEP passed the review conducted in 2005 and the approval letter from EPA was distributed at the IC meeting. The key challenges noted were securing long term funding for implementation and updating the CCMP.
- C. NEP Activities: SFEP will host the fall meeting of the National Estuary Program from Sept. 18-21, 2006 at the Marriott Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco.
- D. Other SFEP Activities: SFEP is assisting with planning for the 2006 CALFED Science Conference scheduled for October 23-25 in Sacramento. The Call for Abstracts will go out early March. SFEP is assisting in the updating of the California Aquatic Invasive Species Plan working with the Dept. of Fish and Game and the Coastal Conservancy. SFEP will also conduct public outreach/workshops for the AIS plan.
- E. It was announced there will be a National Monitoring Conference in San Jose in May.**ACTION:** Marcia will find out more information and send out to I-C members.
- F. Small Grants: SFEP received 31 proposals totaling \$ 238,000 for the Small Grants program. A team of IC members, Friends of the Estuary and SFEP staff reviewed the proposals and selected the 16 projects listed in Attachment E to the meeting package totaling \$ 107,878 . Finalists included environmental education and research and monitoring projects. Geographic location, environmental justice, and repeat applicants were also criteria in the selection.

7. CALFED Activities

Brendan Reed reported that CALFED is proceeding with the PSP for agricultural related projects. Initial reviews have been completed.

The CALFED program has been subject to 3 separate reviews; governance, financial, and management. A 10 Year Action Plan framework which dissolves the California Bay-Delta Authority and replaces it with an Executive Leadership Council chaired by the Resources Secretary (Mike Chrisman) is being considered. The California Water Commission will replace BUDPAC. The program would be moved back under the Resources Agency and the Ecosystem Restoration program would move to Fish & Game. The core divisions in the new CALFED agency would be Science, Strategic Planning, Administration and Communication, and Program Tracking and Performance Measures. There is a big effort to make CALFED more Delta centric. The effort to establish a beneficiary pays mechanism

for funding is ongoing. The water contractors have agreed to invest \$60 million to keep the agency going. CALFED will be switching to directed actions for projects.

8. Agenda for May Meeting

Topics requested included: Update on Invasive Species and the Spartina Project; a presentation by Wim Kimmerer or Bill Bennett relating to their article in the IEP Newsletter (Attachment # 5) relating species abundance to freshwater flow; an update on the Suisun Marsh presentation at the March IEP; a briefing by the SFEP stream and wetlands protection staff on their progress.

9. Adjourn

SFEP I/C Meeting Attendees
Friday, February 3, 2006

Cathy Bleier, California Resources Agency
Phil Bobel, City of Palo Alto
Andree Breaux, SF RWQB
Marcia Brockbank, SFEP
Debbi Egter-Van Wissekerke, SFEP
Arthur Feinstein, Citizens to Complete the Refuge
Rainer Hoenicke, SFEI
Beth Huning, San Francisco Bay Joint Venture
Tom Kendall, USACOE
Larry Kolb, SF RWQCB
Jennifer Krebs, SFEP
Steve McAdam, BCDC
Karen McDowell, SFEP
Mike Monroe, USEPA
Anitra Pawley, The Bay Institute
Michael Perrone, DWR
Brendan Reed, CALFED
Dale Robinson, CENCOOS
Barbara Salzman, Marin Audubon
Ted Smith, Friends of the Estuary
Tim Smith, Mayor, Rohnert Park
Tina Swanson, The Bay Institute
Carol Thornton, SFEP
Pamela Torliatt, ABAG
Paula Trigueros, SFEP
Luisa Valiela, EPA-Region 9